

OXC-3166  
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12 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Development Branch, Development Projects Division  
SUBJECT : Conversation with General Flickinger Regarding Comparative Status of Pilot Ejection Systems

1. The March 7 issue of Aviation Daily on page 44 carries a story on the B-58 escape capsule headed "Ejection Capsule Believed Near Acceptance". You may recall that this is the device which was looked at early in the OXCART Program and rejected largely on Flickinger's recommendation. It is manufactured by Stanley Aviation Company, Denver. You may also remember that it was also tested successfully subsonically at 20,000 feet over Edwards.

2. The article alludes to the fact that if the final application is accepted, the configuration may show up in other aircraft including the TFX. In view of Mr. McCone's series of conferences on progress in various aspects of the OXCART system, I have the feeling it may not be long before your current problems with the parachute system come to his attention. At that point I suspect he may hear from DOD about the "good news" in the B-58 capsule.

3. Accordingly, I have taken the precaution of asking Flickinger to draw up in one piece of paper some statistical and engineering comparisons between his system and the B-58 device, together with an appreciation of the engineering impact in terms of weight and complexity on the OXCART aircraft. I would rather give him time to get this together than to have one of these midnight crashesessions when Mr. McCone finally gets around to this subject.

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